



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS
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TO: LULY MASSARO, CLERK
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

OCTOBER 21, 2021

FROM: ALBERICO MANCINI
CHIEF REGULATORY ANALYST

SUBJECT: NATIONAL GRID BTU CONTENT FACTOR UPDATE
DOCKET NO. 5180

On September 20, 2021, National Grid filed its Semi-Annual Btu content factor update in accordance with its gas tariff.¹ The intent of tracking the Btu content is to reflect the actual Btu content of the gas coming through the pipelines in billings to customers. Btu content can vary based on the source and processing of the gas. The Company's tariffs are based on a rate per therm, while the customers' meter readings are based on measurements of cubic feet of gas (volume) through the meter. A ccf to Btu conversion is therefore applied on the bills to convert the metered measure of volume use to the equivalent amount of therms, based on actual daily MMBtu readings at the various gate stations where the gas enters National Grid's distribution system. The Company submitted actual Btu content data totaling 31,336,280 MMBtus with a volume of 30,427,901 Mcfs for the six-month period November 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 resulting in a Btu content factor of 1.030 ($31,336,280/30,427,901 = 1.030$).

The Division has reviewed the filing and found it consistent with the approved tariff and prior filings. The Division recommends approval of the change in the Btu conversion factor from 1.027 to 1.030 (1 ccf will now equate to 1.030 therms) effective November 1, 2021.

¹ Per the Company's tariff, the BTU content factor is defined as follows: "One British thermal unit, (i.e., the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one-degree Fahrenheit at sixty degrees (60°) Fahrenheit). A Therm is one hundred thousand Btus. The BTU content factor for a given volume, shall be calculated by the Company on a seasonal basis at the end of October and the end of April based upon an average of the Transporting Pipeline's prior six-month experience of recorded BTU factors."